

High-pressure, Ambient-Water Flushing

Objective:	To remove oil that has adhered to hard substrates or man-made structures.
Description:	Similar to low-pressure flushing, except that water pressure is 100-1,000 psi (720-7,200 kpa). High-pressure spray will more effectively remove sticky or viscous oils. If low water volumes are used, sorbents are placed directly below the treatment area to recover oil.
Applicable Habitat Types:	On bedrock, man-made structures, and gravel substrates.
When to Use:	When low-pressure flushing is not effective at removing adhered oil, which must be removed to prevent continued oil release or for aesthetic reasons. When a directed water jet can remove oil from hard-to-reach sites.
Biological Constraints:	May need to restrict flushing so that the oil does not drain across sensitive habitats. Flushed oil must be recovered to prevent further oiling of adjacent areas. Should not be used directly on attached algae nor rich, intertidal areas.
Environmental Effects:	All attached animals and plants in the direct spray zone will be removed, even when used properly. May drive oil deeper into the substrate or erode fine sediments from shorelines if water jet is improperly applied. If containment methods are not sufficient, oil and oiled sediments may be flushed into adjacent areas. Some trampling of substrate and attached biota will occur.
Waste Generation:	Depends on the effectiveness of the collection method.